

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is related to the subject matter of U.S. Patent App. No. 10/038,259 [[----]], entitled “Implicit Shared Bandwidth Protection for Fast Reroute”, filed on January 2, 2002, and also to the subject matter of U.S. Patent App. No. 10/052,665 [[-----]], entitled “Load Balancing for Fast Reroute Tunnels,” filed on January 17, 2002. The contents of both applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.